

CLAIMS

1. The use of VEGF to screen for a substance capable of affecting the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100.

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2. The use of VEGF, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the screen is for a substance capable of blocking the dephosphorylation of p120 and/or p100.

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3. The use as claimed in claim 2, wherein the dephosphorylation is from the phosphorylated serine and/or threonine residues present in p120 and/or p100.

4. The use of a screen, as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3, to identify a substance which is capable of affecting the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100.

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5. A substance identifiable by the use of a screen, as claimed in claim 4.

6. The use of VEGF to screen for a substance capable of interfering with a VEGF-initiated pathway regulating p120/p100 serine/threonine phosphorylation.

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7. The use of VEGF, as claimed in claim 6, wherein the pathway is the PKC-p120/p100 pathway.

8. The use of VEGF, as claimed in claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the screen is to identify an inhibitor and/or a competitor and/or an activator of VEGF.

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9. An inhibitor and/or a competitor and/or an activator of VEGF identifiable by a screen as defined in claim 8.

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10. A method to identify the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100 comprising identifying a band shift of these proteins as revealed by an immunoblotting procedure.

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11. A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100 is affected by VEGF.

5 12. A method to identify the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100 comprising the use of an antibody specific for one or more of the phosphorylation sites on p120 and/or p100.

10 13. A method, as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 12, in the diagnosis of a disease.

15 14. A method, as claimed in claim 13, wherein the disease involves VEGF.

15 15. A method, as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 14, in the evaluation of efficacy of a drug being used or tested to control diseases involving VEGF.

20 16. A method to screen for a compound or other agent that interferes with a signalling pathway capable of being initiated by VEGF to regulate p120/p100 phosphorylation comprising the identification of the phosphorylation state of p120 and/or p100, in the presence of the compound or the other agent, and optionally comparing the phosphorylation state with a standard.

20 17. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the identification of the phosphorylation state is by monitoring a band shift of p120 and/or p100.

25 18. A method as claimed in claim 16 or claim 17, wherein the screen identifies a compound or other agent that interferes with a signalling pathway capable of being initiated by VEGF.

19. A compound or other agent that interferes with a signalling pathway capable of being initiated by VEGF, identifiable by a method as claimed in claim 18.